

Germany's Invitations.
Does the latest project for adjust-
ment of our differences with Ger-
many attributed to the Teutonic states-
men contemplate continuance of the
lawless submarine campaign that to-
day denies to American citizens their
rights on the high seas?
Are we invited to appoint plen-
ipotentiaries to discuss a subject on
which in severing diplomatic relations
we have spoken the penultimate word
and in the most solemn form that
we are capable of announcing our un-
yielding position?

It is incredible that even Prussian
arrogance should be capable of such
stupidity. The matters that divide
the nations cannot be made plainer
than they are. The stand of the
United States has been defined as
clearly as words and deeds can de-
fine it. And our words and acts have
left a straight and easy path for the
restoration of those relations between
Germany and the United States to
which the United States cling tena-
ciously under the most discouraging
and injurious circumstances.

If Germany wants what she lost by
the cancellation of her promise of
May 4, this she can do by comply-
ing with the law and conducting her
war according to the accepted usages
of civilization. But until she aban-
dons the lawless course on which she
is now embarked there can be no
composition of the dispute between
Germany and the United States; and
every hour brings closer the incident
that will compel resort to the last
defense that right and honor know.

Recruit the Army to Full Strength!
Can it be true that the President is
not using the authority given him by
the national defense act to raise the
army to its maximum peace strength
of 175,000 because he is apprehensive
that such a course would be miscon-
strued in Germany?

The regular army is only 57 per
cent. of maximum peace strength (un-
fortunately we have no reserves to
bring it up to contemplated war
strength), and nothing is being done
in Washington to fill the ranks, al-
though the country today stands in
the shadow of war.

"The President," the national de-
fense act provides, "is authorized to
organize immediately the entire in-
crease authorized by this act, or so
much thereof as he may deem neces-
sary," but Mr. Wilson allows the
army, that is to say the preparedness
of the land forces, to drift, because,
so it is said, action on his part would
give the Imperial Government an ex-
cuse for declaring war, just as was
done in the case of Russia when mobil-
ization had been ordered.

Whether this is true of Mr. Wil-
son's state of mind or not, he must
have a reason for not taking the step
in preparing the nation for possible
hostilities which it is his manifest
duty to take. Obviously his reason is
of a pacifist nature, but this is no
time to hesitate and falter.

If we are going to let preparations
for the security of the nation wait on
the pleasure of Germany, then may
God help us!

If the imminence of war passes—it
surely will not pass until the conflict
in Europe ends—the defense forces
can be reduced by act of Congress;
but if we fail at this time to put the
national defense act into operation
we shall be the most famous people
in the annals of time and may soon
find ourselves rushing upon destruc-
tion.

Mr. Gerard's John Hancock.
We have been told by various re-
porters, official, semi-official and non-
official, that in the period between the
recall of our Ambassador to Germany
and his physical withdrawal from that
country he was urged by the German
Foreign Office to sign some document
which should revive, or reaffirm, or
ratify, or otherwise put new life into
a treaty that has subsisted for years
between the United States and the
nation Mr. Gerard has just quit.

might; but his John Hancock on a
document of the kind described would
be as ineffective legally as that of
the least conspicuous member of the
American colony in Timbuktu.

And we have no doubt that the
palmstreaking and highly educated of-
ficialdom of Berlin knows this just as
well as it knows the date of the
Crown Prince's various promotions in
the military of his country.

The Next Uplift.
Uplift progresses so rapidly that it
becomes important to forecast its phe-
nomena, like the weather. There may
be some temporary obstacles in the
way of confirming Rear Admiral Cary
T. Grayson, whose sugar pills and
gold pills have contributed so much to
the Service of Humanity, but assum-
ing that they will be lightly brushed
aside, we turn with alacrity to the
consideration of Uplift's next prob-
able promotion.

There is a man who has done more
for Mr. Wilson than Dr. Grayson,
who has done more for the Wilson
politics than Bill Stone, who has
never had to explain like Mr. LANSING
or apologize like the late Senator
HERRA, and who, in spite of his tre-
mendous personal achievements, has
been lately watchfully waiting nearly
four long years. The President un-
doubtedly expects to uplift this super-
deserving Democrat and can only be
hesitating because of an inability to
decide what form the Uplift shall
take. As the gentleman has already
a military title it is natural to expect
his apotheosis along that line.

We therefore look for the speedy
nomination by the President, and
stunned ratification by the Senate, of
Colonel EDWARD MANDELL HORSE
as Grand Marshal and Generalissimo
of the military forces of the United
States of Humanity.

Mr. Lincoln's Counselors.
MR. LINCOLN came to the President's
office after a period in which watchful
waiting had run its full course and
produced its inevitable fruits. He was
a man of peace, anxious to spare his
country war, and particularly opposed
to fratricidal strife. But fate had
decreed that he should administer the
affairs of the republic through that
season in which its greatest burdens
were laid upon it and its patriotic
devotion was most severely tried.

This heavy task Mr. LINCOLN under-
took, and prosecuted to a successful
conclusion. Having entered on it he
sought no other end than the estab-
lishment of a peace that should insure
the protection of the interests en-
trusted to him and the preservation
of the nation he had been called on to
serve. He was not deceived by pleas-
ing theories inapplicable to the con-
ditions of the community in which he
found himself, nor was he misled by
fallacious speculations as to the pos-
sibility of regenerating a world—or
even a part of a world—by the em-
ployment of rose water where expe-
rience indicated chloride of lime.

He devoted himself to the labor of
marshalling the resources available to
him for the accomplishment of the
object that at the moment was most
important; and this he did without
expending undue energy on the triv-
ialities of the spin theories. He
tackled the job and put it through;
and thus he supported the design of
Providence and fulfilled the expecta-
tions and hopes of his loyal fellow
countrymen.

MR. LINCOLN, in short, called com-
mon sense into his study, and followed
its counsels wherever and whenever
the circumstances of his environment
permitted. He earned thereby suc-
cess and fame; and in every crisis
through which the Union passed, now
or hereafter, it will be to the lasting
advantage of the United States if
common sense and determination sit
close to the right hand of him on
whom the robes of authority rest.

**Universal Training or No Adequate
Defense.**
In his testimony before the Senate
Committee on Military Affairs Gen-
eral LEONARD WOOD agreed with a
conclusion THE SUN had come to:
that there is no alternative to univer-
sal training but a too costly regular
army. The American people would
not pay the price, in General Wood's
opinion. Two dollars a day "and
found" would undoubtedly give us an
army of any size wanted. Could it be
done for any less when the farm
laborer receives the same wage and
his board, when the man who beats
carpets on the grass or does ordinary
chores about the house can command
two dollars a day?

The enlisted man, it is true, gets
only fifteen dollars a month now, and
doubtless for twice the pay the army
could be recruited up to peace
strength and kept there; but if a regu-
lar army of 250,000 men were an
imperative need—military men con-
sider it the minimum for the first
line of defense, provided it be sup-
ported by reserves—the Government
would have to bid much higher to
keep the ranks filled. A mental cal-
culation will show that the necessary
appropriation could never be obtained
from Congress.

The continental army plan had an
ephemeral life, and it is dead as a
doornail now. The expedient seems
to have been visionary. Only the
most patriotic men would have be-
come continentals, a few hundred
thousand out of 15,000,000 of Ameri-
cans able to bear arms. The volun-
teers would have been martyrs to
their love of country and sense of
duty, a class apart, which under the
circumstances should be intolerable
in a republic of freemen. Why per-
mit such a sacrifice? The men of
the continental army would have had
six months training in three instal-
ments, little enough; and the pay

offered would have been no induc-
ement to the most sordid.

When thought is given to it, the
idea of the continental army serves
well as an illustration of what uni-
versal training should be: so many
months of drill, manoeuvres and
schooling in tactics for all young-
sters sound in wind and limb in-
stead of for 400,000 citizens of 35
and under who are moved to enlist by
love of country; no pay or only nomi-
nal pay for the universals, healthy
boys who would learn self-control and
benefit by the lesson of discipline in-
culcated. A duty required of all
would not be a burden, and pride in
the uniform and reverence for the flag
would become second nature. If the
country tried universal training it
would never be given up.

The objection of militarism in such
a democracy as ours is a parrot cry
of the pacifists, who do not under-
stand their American. The time may
be nearer than we think when the
people will be confronted by the nec-
essity of a decision of the question.

Film Plays or Film Orbits?
An official of one motion picture
company expresses publicly his private
opinion that "before long the
story rather than the star will come
into its own on the screens, just as
it has on the legitimate stage. I be-
lieve that the author is not getting
what he is entitled to to-day, but will
some day."

Perhaps this opinion might be con-
sidered by many to have more weight
if it were not also known that the au-
thor of it receives as salary from the
film companies only \$1,000 a week,
a mere tenth of the remuneration con-
ferred on the film's foremost actor.
Would not ten times as much impor-
tance attach to Mr. CHAPLIN's fore-
casts of the silent drama?

However, we incline to believe that
MR. SAMUEL GOLDWINE, who empha-
sized the author's part in a picture, is
right. The play's the thing on the
screen as well as on the boards. More
and more the great mass of movie-
goers, the people who do not form
their opinions consciously, are tiring
of the pretty face posed insidiously
against variegated backgrounds. Just
as they some day will tire of the
pretty girl on magazine covers.

Should not there be a distinct hush
on the subject of film stories? Why
add to the author's financial discom-
fort? But maybe it is a case of
choosing between discontented authors
and a discontented public.

To the Zone of the Overt Act.
At an hour when a United States
Senator was pleading for the Adminis-
tration's definition of an overt act,
when Washington was speculating as
to whether Berlin might not reopen
the door of peace, and when the own-
ers of the St. Louis were expressing
despair of getting guns from anybody,
two American ships—without instruc-
tions or advice from the Administration—
did something.

Scheduled to sail for France on
Saturday, they sailed; and so far as
the Prussian cleft of January 31,
with which both skippers were fami-
liar, is concerned, they flouted it in
five different ways.

If you sail, said Berlin in that
atrocious decree, sail to Falmouth.
The Rochester and the Orleans are
bound for France.
Fly a checkered red and white flag,
the Tipton had decreed. The
Rochester and the Orleans left their
port flying no such kitchen tablecloth.
They carried The Flag.
One ship, once a week, in each di-
rection, said the Prussian. The two
Yankees sailed the same day in the
same direction.
Let the Government of the United
States, demanded the Prussian, guar-
antee that no contraband is carried.
The Rochester and the Orleans took
cargoes of their owners' choice, includ-
ing munitions.
Evidently the owners, the masters
and the crews of these two American
ships have faith in the power of the
United States. To them the edict of
the Hohenzollern Admiralty is too ri-
diculous or too savage to be taken at
its face. Conscious of their rights on
the sea, the captains have gone about
their business, violating no rule ex-
cept the lawless ukase of a mad for-
eign Government.

and authentic information concern-
ing the assembly of furtive battalions
to drill in the dark of the moon and
the Kaiser's service. Whenever a
person of obviously Teutonic configu-
ration, disguised as a backwoodsman
from Milwaukee, is detected in the
act of gazing with suspicious intent
at the Washington Arch we shall
disclose his villainous behavior; for
these things are part and parcel of
the preparation for war.

The homing pigeon captured in the
Mississippi Valley bearing cryptic de-
patches, the strange messages inter-
cepted by innocent tappers of tele-
phones, the alarming conversations
overheard by travellers in smoking
cars; all these and many others will
find welcome and a home. The plot-
ters who plan their nefarious deeds
within hearing of half the town, with
only one of all their possible auditors
astute enough to penetrate their sub-
terfuge, will soon be introduced to the
people. Such things must be.

But we have determined not to
lynch anybody without at least twenty-
four hours reflection, and we shall
insist on obtaining the evidence of
two witnesses of full age and under-
standing before we give our assent to
the assault on the victim. Calm-
ness and deliberation are to be our
watchwords in these matters, and we
commend them to others as worthy
of attentive consideration.

Senator-elect HALE of Maine dodged
five shells near Ypres. Americans are
becoming highly expert in dodging.

As Count ILTA TOLSTOY has been pre-
vented from speaking at Columbia
University because of his "too liberal
opinions," he may rest assured of a
large attendance from the student
body when he delivers an address out-
side the academic boundary lines.

Jury upholds husband—Decides wed-
ding gifts are not all wife's—*Newspaper
headline.*
Tyrants! Who now will dare to
oppose votes for women?

In the opinion of Dr. FREDERICK J.
E. WOODBRIDGE there should be found
in the university "the youngest man
who needs instruction, the men and women
of society, those burdened with affairs,
the writer, the publicist, the states-
man, the men of the professions, the
inequality of wealth." At present the
only places where all of them meet
are the dancing halls which serve as
a little food on the side.

Now that China is with it the Ad-
ministration can hesitate twice as long
as usual.

Ambassador FLETCHER has departed
for Mexico, and will present himself
to the Carranza Government immedi-
ately. If PANCHO VILLA will let him,
PANCHO himself is reported to be near
Juarez, at the head of an army.
We hope that Mr. FLETCHER will ex-
ercise caution as he peacefully pen-
etrates Mexico; it is apparent that at
the moment the presence of an Ameri-
can near CARRANZA is of first rate im-
portance.

Will MR. CHANDLER's safe conduct carry
him past the Tammany city conven-
tion?

ST. JOHN'S TOWERS.
Should One Mighty Structure Replace
Four Smaller Ones?
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The
Cathedral of St. John the Divine should
have one great tower instead of four
smaller ones, for the following reason:
Such a tower looming up would be for
all time the highest point in the greater
city, the harbor, the Sound, far up the
Hudson, long vistas of Westchester
county, New Jersey and Long Island. It
would be one of the main objectives in
New York of tourists from all parts of
the world.

Few New Yorkers would miss seeing
the wonderful panorama. The scene on
moonlight nights would be beautiful be-
yond description.
It would constitute a civic possession
of great value, and to fail to provide
it would be a grave blunder.
The architectural problem involved
would doubtless be easily solved by the
architect, Mr. CRAIN. All that would be
necessary would be a series of openings
or a balustrade surrounding the tower
at the highest point in harmony with
the general style of the structure.
When one remembers that the World-
tower has now on an average of
17,000 visitors a year, three-quarters
of whom pay for the privilege, one can
have an idea of the enormous revenue
that could be derived from this infinitely
greater opportunity.

That revenue could be applied to
the support of a great hospital or to
other charities of broad appeal.
This is not a cathedral age. Religious
impulse is placing the emphasis on social
service and foreign missions rather than
on the soldier as the ideal of us.
A religious aspiration or a religious nec-
essity. But as it is now far from being
an ornament to Mornington Heights all
wish to see the great temple completed.

To equip the tower for the purpose
mentioned would render a genuine public
service and give a great impulse toward
finishing the work.
JOHN A. WADE.
NEW YORK, February 10.

WHAT WE OWE FRANCE.
Money Payment Is Impossible, but
Reimbursement Is Practicable.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The
particulars given by you in reference to
the approximate sum spent by France
upon this country between the years
1876 and 1881 are most interesting, and
while I readily realize that at compound
interest the original debt or gift has
grown to such dimensions that it would
be impossible for this country to repay
it in money, at the same time surely
we are patriotic enough and sufficiently
interested in the great republic across
the seas to attempt to discharge this, in
our case, moral responsibility, and I
am sure your readers will agree with
me that there was never a time in the
history of France that material assist-
ance would be of greater use.

The manufacturing concerns of the
United States have made enormous
profits out of the supplies purchased by
France, and they have not been un-
happy to receive the cash for every
ounce of goods they have received at
considerably advanced prices over any
figure that the wildest imagination could
have estimated three years ago. To
this is not a great opportunity for those
who have accumulated many millions to
make repayment to the nation, and
rendered us in our dire days of uncer-
tainty and anxiety by the French people,
who willingly sent us not only their
money but the best of many of their
brilliant countrymen to fight our cause
in the revolutionary days when Great
Britain refused to lend us assistance,
and ignorance of her true ruler, Geo-
ge III., sent hired Hessians to this
country to fight the loyal Colonists who
were standing together for the rights
and justice they were entitled to under
the Magna Charta. There is no need
of saying that the English people, who
in sympathy with the action of the then
Government of the country or willing to
put their hand to the work of opposing
the Colonists with any degree of heart
or energy, and the only troops avail-
able for the purpose were, as already
stated, the hired Hessians, and their
kind and as those that the Allies were
fighting. Every loyal American owes a
debt of gratitude to France, and now
is the time and opportunity of in part
repaying it.
W. E. PALMER.
NEW YORK, February 10.

THE HOME STILL.
Apparatus for Domestic Distillery
Neither Expensive Nor Elaborate.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Your
opinion that in event of the adoption of
national prohibition the expense of
apparatus for home distilleries would be
large is based, I presume, on the cost of
distilled liquors, and the production of
distilled liquors for domestic consumption.
In so far as the domestic production
of alcoholic beverages is concerned the
only apparatus needed is one tea kettle,
one yard of rubber hose and one tin
pan. Dissolve ten pounds of sugar in
the pan, add a cake of yeast, which con-
verts the sugar into alcohol; put the re-
sultant mixture in the kettle and run
the hose from its spout under the
kitchen cold water tap. Heat applied
to the mixture causes the alcohol to
pass off, and it is caught in a bottle at
the other end of the hose. Cost of
apparatus, \$1. Cost of liquor, alcoholic
strength of whiskey, about 30 cents a
gallon.
Of course this liquor is not as palat-
able as that produced in the elaborate
apparatus used in modern distilleries,
but it will satisfy a certain class of
drinkers, though it is undoubtedly, as
you state, of inferior quality. The
distilled liquor is greatly inferior to
under strict Government supervision and
inspection.
HENRY J. KALTENBACH.
NEW YORK, February 10.

With a Frequent Day Application.
Name Old Sunflower State.
From the Tappan Capital.
"Unless you devote your conversation to
about the rich, you are likely to say
something that will offend the 'people.'"
From the Albany South.
Knicker—The Florida citrus crops are
troubling.
Bocker—They can still hand us some
taxation lessons.

**Reasoning With the Nebraska Coo
Hunters.**
From the Table Rock Argus.
To those residents of Table Rock who
are in the habit of racoon hunting on
other people's property without permis-
sion: My dear friends, it is a poor rule
that will not work both ways. For years
we have been standing upon your trespass-
ing and peace disturbances, but by your ac-
tions on recent nights our patience has
reached its limit. Has it ever occurred
to you, friends, that our country folk
have just as much right to come to town
to hunt, trespass, etc., on your premises
as you have on ours? Suppose we'd come
leading up the street in a rattling old
car, tooting the horn and yelling, with
pounds baying and shooting Mr. guns and
keep it up until 2 A. M., how many of
you would have had the law on your
side? Not one. Breaking into one's
much needed rest is hard on well people,
let alone on the sick, nervous, old or the
very young. My friends, please remem-
ber the Golden Rule and act accordingly.
Mrs. ULMER LAMARSON.

Analogy From Kennel Club Country.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: If a
man or woman would not wait until
one of his family was chewed up before
shooting.
H. G. SATERSTON.
BALTIMORE, February 10.

A. LINCOLN, LL.D.
An Unpublished Letter Thanking
Princeton for the Degree.
From the Princeton Alumni Weekly.
In connection with the anniversary of
the birth of Abraham Lincoln it is par-
ticularly interesting at this time of national
stress to recall that shortly after
Lincoln's second election in 1864 Prince-
ton conferred upon him the honorary
degree of Doctor of Laws. His letter to
President Maclean accepting the degree,
in his own handwriting, in one of
Princeton's most precious possessions.
This letter, from President Lincoln,
which we believe has never before been
published, is as follows:

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, December 27, 1864.
MY DEAR SIR: I have the honor to
acknowledge the reception of your note
of the 20th of December, conveying the
announcement that the Trustees of the
College of New Jersey have conferred
upon me the Degree of Doctor of Laws.
The assurance conveyed by this high
compliment, that the course of the Gov-
ernment which I represent has secured
the approval of a body of gentlemen of
such character and intelligence in this
time of public trial, is most grateful
to me.

Thoughtful men must feel that the
face of civilization upon this continent
is being etched in the issues of our contest.
Among the most gratifying proofs of
this conviction is the hearty devotion
everywhere exhibited by our schools and
colleges to the national cause.
I am most thankful if my labors have
seemed to conduce to the preservation
of those institutions under which alone
we can expect great and lasting benefit
to our country and the progress
of the liberal arts.
I am, sir, very truly
Your obedient servant,
A. LINCOLN.
Dr. John Maclean.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.
Its Members in the Watershed Are
Property Clad.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The
confidence evidenced in the editorial ar-
ticle "Is This True?" in THE SUN of Fe-
bruary 9, 1917, as to the incredibility
of statements which appeared in evening
papers is fully justified and the senti-
ment expressed is what might be ex-
pected from a journal which is so well
informed on matters of general public
interest.

The statement to which your editorial
article referred, "The guardians (Tenth
New York Infantry) tramped about in a
foot of snow, many of them without
overcoats or gloves, is not true, and
these soldiers are not the 'victims of
shameful incompetence.'"
Your own news article on page 4,
second column, of the same issue of THE
SUN carries a denial of such state-
ments in the report of Major-General
O'Hanlon, based on his inspection of the
troops guarding the city's water supply.
The implication, however, was unjust
as reflecting on the provision made by
responsible officers of the National
Guard for proper equipment of the
soldiers for winter field service.

Specific instructions were given that
articles, woolen gloves and head covering
should be furnished in emergency pur-
chases before leaving home stations, and
this was done.
In an account of the departure of the
Tenth Infantry the Albany Journal of
February 7 described them as "the best
equipped military outfit that ever left
the city."
It is a fact that "news" of the National
Guard is generally considered to
consist of a description of its "failures,"
shortcomings, discrepancies, inefficiency
and "scandals." In general, officers and
men of the military service of the State
do not seek adulation or desire com-
pliment. In fact, they are a very consider-
able portion of the military strength of the
nation, have a right to expect the support
of the public in their performance of
ordered duty.

It has been alleged that "the National
Guard has been dragged with praise."
Possibly your editorial article was in-
tended as another injunction.
EDWARD CHAMBERLIN,
Major, Assistant Chief of Staff, New
York Division, National Guard.
NEW YORK, February 10.

THE OVERT ACT.
Shall Government of, by and for the
People Perish?
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In
his Gettysburg address Abraham Lin-
coln proclaimed the hope that the sacri-
fices of our civil war might not be in
vain, but to the end that "government
of the people, by the people and for the
people might not perish from the earth."
It appears to some of us that
"the people's" official representatives in
Washington seem to consider that "gov-
ernment for the people" has indeed per-
ished from the earth and that Prussian
militarism is the power to be recognized
and bowed down to in a "watchful wait-
ing." In effect it is not the notice of the
Imperial German Government as to its in-
tended submarine warfare just as truly
a declaration of war against neutral ship-
ping as any "overt act" can be?

I fail to see why such a notice should
not be treated as what it really is in
effect, and that is an overt act. While
desiring given in plain words that
while dealing with relations and re-
fusing to commit or approve any "overt
act" we shall use every means in our
power to protect the lives and property
of our people in the exercise of their
just and lawful rights.
While it is glorious to have a giant's
strength, but it is tyranny to use it as
a giant; it is also true that it is ow-
ardly to have a giant's strength and
refuse to use it to uphold honor and
justice and to protect the weak and
helpless against tyranny, outrage and
oppression, and to the end that "gov-
ernment of the people, by the people
and for the people shall not perish
from the earth."
LUCIUS P. MORGAN.
NEW YORK, February 10.

A Suggestion for Crowded Hotels.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: A
large number of persons are turned
away from hotels and have to go
back home at great inconvenience and
annoyance. A list of reputable rooming
and boarding houses near by should be
kept on file by hotels. I have known
nurses and children with ample funds
to be compelled to spend the night in
railroad waiting rooms.
C. D. L.
NEW YORK, February 10.

**THE WORLD'S MOST SURPRISING AND
MOST USEFUL FIBRE.**
Cotton More Valuable Than Gold, and the United States Leads in the
Growth and Export of It.
From the cells of the outer coat of
the seed of certain herbs and shrubs
grow the hairy filaments that form
cotton. The natives of India knew
how to weave this fibre into fabric cen-
turies before the Christian era. Trav-
ellers who had penetrated Far Cathay
brought back to the Western world
tales of "vegetable wool"—wool that
grew on plants. It was not until after
the Crusades that there was cotton
manufacture on a considerable scale in
Europe. It was a thriving industry in
Spain in the thirteenth century, and
a hundred years later in the Nether-
lands, whence it was imported into
England. The United States is second
to Great Britain in the manufacture
of cotton. The industry is active in Aus-
tralia, France, Germany, Italy, Russia,
Spain and India; it has a foothold in
Scandinavia, Switzerland and Japan.
Cotton has also been grown and manu-
factured in China for at least 2,000
years.

Of the flexible, durable, warmth con-
serving material that can be made
into garments conforming to the shape
of the body, cotton is the most impor-
tant. Of it is made by far the greater
proportion of the clothing of the world—
of that worn next the body, of the inner
linings, of the outer apparel of the
day and the attire of the night. Be-
cause of its soft, absorbent quality, it
is the most wholesome material for
hosiery and more and more is being
fashioned into gloves. So also is cot-
ton used more than any other material
in the linings of the bed and of the
table; it is even at the disposal of the
nurse. In 1783 cotton supplied 4.4
per cent. of the clothing of Europe
and America; a hundred years later it
supplied 75.13 per cent.

Cotton yielding plants grow
throughout the tropical and semi-
tropical countries of the world. A
considerable proportion of the produc-
tion of many countries enters immedi-
ately into their domestic consump-
tion and is not of statistical record.
The value of the world's cotton crop
of which there is a record exceeds by
50 per cent. that of its annual yield of
grain and wheat. Of the commercial
supply of the world's cotton, about 44
per cent. is produced in one-half to
two-thirds comes from the United
States. India produces from one-quarter
to one-sixth as much as this country;
Egypt is next; Russia, China and
Brazil follow; produce about as much
as Egypt. The remainder is of cen-
tral and southern origin. Mexico,
Peru, Turkey, Persia, Japan and a few
other countries.

The value of the cotton exported by
the United States in 1912 exceeded
the combined value of its exports of
iron and steel manufactures, its meat
and dairy products and breadstuffs.
In 1914 the world's commercial pro-
duction was about 25,000,000 bales of
500 pounds each. The United States
produced about 17,000,000 bales, about
8,200,000 being exported. In 1916 the
world's commercial production was
about 29,000,000 bales. The United
States produced about 12,000,000, and
exported 7,000,000.

Thus the cotton produced in the
United States that which was available
for domestic consumption in 1916 was
little more than half the quantity
so available in 1914. Therefore the
supply that could be manufactured into
fabrics for clothing and household use
of an increasing population was much
less than normal, and upon this supply
the automobile industry made a se-
vere drain. The inner sheath of the
tires is made of alternate layers of
rubber and cotton, and cotton enters
largely into the upholstery and lining
of the car bodies.

After the outbreak of the war when
cotton had been declared contraband
by the Allies the situation was critical.
The price fell to 64 cents a pound, and
every one was compelled to "buy a bale"
to conserve the welfare of the cotton
growers and of the South. If every one
had known what would happen the cot-
ton crop would have been many times
oversubscribed. What happened was
that the demand of the belligerent na-
tions increased. Not only did the textile
mills of Great Britain and France con-
tinue in operation, but cotton was re-
quired for munitions of war in quan-
tities never before known. This is be-
cause the fibrous substance when
treated with nitric acid becomes the
highly explosive gun-cotton, and is
extremely difficult to produce. Then the
rising prosperity in the United States
increased the demand for cotton for
universal consumption. Small wonder
it is that the price has risen as high
as 21 cents a pound, and now ranges
around 16 cents a pound. The in-
creased demand has more than coun-
terbalanced the cutting off of the mar-
kets of the Central Powers. The tex-
tile mills of Germany and Austria are
undoubtedly suffering for cotton, but it
is asserted that material answering the
same purpose as gun-cotton for pro-
jectiles is being made in Germany from
wood pulp. Germany is also making
fabrics of wood pulp that in many ways
are taking the place of cotton. The
cotton industry of the world is in a
critical position.

Recently Great Britain has
commandered the product of the linen
mills of Belfast for use in her aero-
planes. Therefore cotton will have to
be used for a time for many purposes
to which linen has been devoted.
It is estimated that the annual con-
sumption of cotton in the United States
has been at the rate of about three
pounds for each person, in Great Britain
at the rate of about twenty-two,
and that in the remainder of the world
it averages perhaps five pounds. But
the use of cotton is extending. As the
Chinese have come to wear the gar-
ments of the West they consume more
cotton. So also do the Hindus, and
many out of the way tribes are sub-
stituting a somewhat more elaborate
attire for the bree